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Nat. Hist. IV. 85. In a notice of that search given in the Proceedings of the Academy for 1869, p. 91, Mr. Redfield had said, "If the Corema is again to be discovered in New Jersey it will probably be in the wide sandy waste a few miles west of Cedar Bridge, near the boundary between Burlington and Ocean Counties, where a succession of elevated ancient beaches offers conditions similar to those of Cape Cod." He had now the satisfaction to report that about two years ago the plant was discovered by Prof. Merrill of Columbia College, N. Y., in the precise region which had been indicated. The place was soon after visited by Prof. Britton, and in April of this year, at the invitation of the latter, Mr. Arthur Hollick, Dr. J. B. Brinton and Mr. Redfield had accompanied him in a visit to the locality which lies about three miles west of Cedar Bridge, and about eleven miles west of Barnegat. The region is most singular in its aspect and impresses one with a sense of desolate loneliness. Forming the divide or water-shed, it rises in gentle swells which command an extensive view of a sandy desert leached by the rains to a degree of barrenness such that the scattered trees of *Pinus rigida* can attain the height of only three or four feet. The party was surprised at the amazing extent of *Corema*, exceeding that of any locality yet reported in the United States, being more or less abundant over a tract nearly a square mile in extent, its scattered patches in some places becoming confluent over large spaces. Myriads of young seedlings were also springing up in the bare white sand, so that there is little prospect of the plant becoming extinct. This is now the most southern station known for *Corema*, and was probably the origin of the few patches which Dr. Torrey found at Cedar Bridge, in 1834, but which had disappeared before 1869.

The following communications were made in connection with the proceedings of the Conchological Section:

*The Radula in Rhipidoglossate Mollusks.*—Mr. H. A. PILSBRY spoke of the modes of specialization of the radula in rhipidoglossate mollusks illustrating his remarks by black-board diagrams. He stated that the marginal teeth undergo but slight variations throughout the group. The reduction in number of the teeth consequent upon the enlargement of the individual teeth takes place in the median portion of the membrane, where differentiation of the primitive homodont radula commenced. In the family Trochidæ the outer lateral teeth (next to the numerous undifferentiated marginal teeth) become degenerate in the more specialized forms (*Trochus, Clanculus, etc.*) which have only five perfect laterals, a sixth being represented by a small plate without cusp or cutting point. In certain other genera of Trochids, there are seven or more laterals. In Turbinidæ and Phasianellinæ, on the other hand, the reduction in number of the teeth proceeds by the obsolescence or total loss of the central tooth (as in the group of Phasianellæ which the speaker had named *Orthomesus*), or the loss of the cusp of the tooth, as in certain sections of the genus *Astralium.* This process is followed by the obsolescence of the inner lateral teeth, shown in certain species of *Astralium* in which the cusps of these teeth are absent. The same course had been followed in the Neritopsidæ, where, as Dr. Fischer has shown, the central and inner lateral teeth have been lost. Attention was called to the anomalous radula of *Phasianella virgo* Angas, a species of *Orthomesus* in which the rhachidian tooth was replaced by a false central tooth, formed by the coalescence of the two inner lateral teeth.

*Remarks on Oliva inflata, Chem., O. irisans, Lam. and other species of shells.*—MR. JOHN FORD exhibited a large number of specimens representing *Oliva inflata* Chem. and *Oliva irisans* Lam. In referring to the various colors and forms of the series shown he called attention to the difficulties attendant upon a correct separation of the species comprised in the genus. As evidence of thereof it may be said that fully one hundred and fifty names have been applied to the species which altogether do not number more than sixty.

Mr. Tryon reduced the number to fifty-five, and a careful examination of the Academy's collection will show no reason for questioning his judgment.

Very many of the discarded names were, by Marratt and other writers, avowedly based upon color varieties only. A larger number, however, may be safely charged to the lack of opportunity for comparing the newly-discovered specimens with others already named, and an absence of the literature referring to them.

These latter difficulties can be readily comprehended if a casual glance be given to the two species under consideration, showing as they do at least twenty varieties of color, including one perfect albino, and half as many different forms. And yet a close observation will satisfy the most skeptical student that certain characters proving their specific distinction are present in each.

These conclusions apply also to several other species belonging to the genus,—markedly so to *O. ispidula* Lam. *O. araneosa* Lam., and *O. reticularis* Lam.,—each shell in the first-named species varying in color, and often in form, from either of its otherwise closely allied fellows.

While much that has been said will apply with equal force to *O. irisans,* it has been deemed best in this instance to retain several of the names formerly held as specific, but with the understanding that they be used for varieties only.

Thus we have as the type of the species, *O. irisans,* Lam., and as varieties, *concinna* Marratt, *tremulina* Lam., *erythrostoma* Lam. and *textilina* Lam.

With the series of *O. inflata* shown, there are a dozen specimens belonging to the species, but which are distinct in two characters at least from all of the others. To these the varietal name *Ovumralli,* has been given by the speaker. Though all of the specimens